



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

September 10, 2019

Ambassador Robert Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative
600 17th St. NW
Washington, DC 20508

Ambassador Lighthizer,

I am grateful for your work and continued commitment to improving America's trade deals. I was especially pleased to hear of the agreement in principle with Japan. I am writing to ask that you include the same agriculture provisions negotiated in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) in the formal deal with Japan.

Trade is the backbone of Montana's economy, and open markets and certainty are critical for Montana agriculture producers. Japan is the number one destination of Montana-grown wheat. Montanans need a formal agreement with Japan to provide great certainty with one of our top trading partners.

Since the U.S. withdrew from TPP, Montana farmers and ranchers have been losing out in Japan to countries like Canada and Australia. While TPP was not a perfect agreement, the agricultural provisions were a big win for Montana's farmers. The agreement secured market access for U.S. ag products like Montana wheat as well as eliminated unfair subsidies that put U.S. farmers at a disadvantage.

I thank you for your significant attention to this matter. I urge you to prioritize securing equitable market access for wheat with Japan. This is a matter of urgency for Montana's farmers and an opportunity to maintain America's agriculture domination.

Sincerely,



Greg Gianforte
Member of Congress